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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

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•)
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•)
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PAMELA WAGNER,
CONNIE WEBER,
PATRICIA WESSLER,
TRACY WESTFALL,
LESLIE RODGERS,
               Plaintiffs,
                                  ) NO. 1:00-cv-01898-DFH-TAB
          vs.
CINCINNATI INSURANCE COMPANY,
               Defendant.
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

ARLENE ROCHLIN, et al.,)
Plaintiffs,)
v.) Case No. 1:00-cv-1898-DFH-TAB
CINCINNATI INSURANCE CO., A SUBSIDIARY OF CINCINNATI FINANCIAL CORPORATION,))))
Defendant.)

ENTRY ON MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO PROCLAIM AMERICA

Plaintiffs filed on January 10, 2006 a motion to quash the defendant's non-party subpoena directed to one plaintiff's subsequent employer, Proclaim America. The motion is denied for failure to comply with this court's Local Rule 37.1, which requires opposing counsel to meet and confer on discovery disputes before such disputes are presented to the court by way of motion.

The court has the discretion to overlook failures to comply, such as where it is obvious that such a conference would be futile. See, *e.g.*, *Knauf Fiber Glass GmbH v. CertainTeed Corp.*, No. 1:02-cv-1215, Entry on Motion to Compel, n.1 (S.D. Ind. Feb. 2, 2006) (motion sought discovery of privileged documents on basis of crime-fraud exception to privilege); *Kobelco Metal Powder of America, Inc. v. The Energy Cooperative, Inc.*, 2001 WL 1397311, *1-2 (S.D. Ind. Oct. 30, 2001)

(sufficient communications between counsel showed that further discussion would

be futile).

Here it is far from clear that further discussion would be futile. Plaintiffs'

reply brief seeks to explain the failure to meet and confer on the ground that

Proclaim America's counsel had already objected to the subpoena. In other words,

the reply brief indicates there had been no direct communication on this topic

between the opposing counsel. In addition, plaintiffs' original motion focused on

one subpoena issued to one plaintiff's one subsequent employer. Plaintiffs' reply

brief seeks to broaden the issue so as to quash subpoenas to "all Plaintiffs'

subsequent employers after their employment ended with CIC." (Proposed order

tendered with reply brief.) It would not be fair to address the issue on such a

broad basis when that scope was first raised in the reply brief.

The denial is without prejudice to renewal if the parties are unable to reach

agreement on the subject.

So ordered.

Date: February 3, 2006

DAVID F. HAMILTON, JUDGE United States District Court

Southern District of Indiana

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Copies to:

Deborah S. Adams FROST BROWN TODD LLC dadams@fbtlaw.com

Carolyn Ann Clay PRICE WAICUKAUSKI RILEY & DEBROTA cclay@price-law.com

Amy Ficklin DeBrota PRICE WAICUKAUSKI RILEY & DEBROTA adebrota@price-law.com

Jennifer L. Graham jenniferlgraham@sbcglobal.net

Jack B. Harrison FROST BROWN & TODD LLC jharrison@fbtlaw.com

Alan L. McLaughlin BAKER & DANIELS alan.mclaughlin@bakerd.com

Katherine Cook Morgan FROST BROWN & TODD LLC kmorgan@fbtlaw.com

Henry J. Price PRICE WAICUKAUSKI RILEY & DEBROTA hprice@price-law.com

Roberta Sabin Recker BAKER & DANIELS rsrecker@bakerd.com

David A. Skidmore Jr. FROST BROWN & TODD LLC dskidmore@fbtlaw.com

Jana K. Strain
PRICE WAICUKAUSKI RILEY & DEBROTA
jstrain@price-law.com

Ronald J. Waicukauski PRICE WAICUKAUSKI RILEY & DEBROTA rwaicukauski@price-law.com